related equipment) is given to the image processing system-main process (see "~~instruction for~~

emergency stop/state transition instruction" in Fig. 2).

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Please replace the paragraph commencing at line 1 with the following amended

paragraph:

As a result, in each subprocess of the image processing system, so long as there is any

data (for example, image data) which is being processed, it is cancelled (~~destructed~~ discarded)

and processing which is being executed is stopped, and processing for transition to the initial

state is carried out. For example, among subprocesses of the image processing system, a

subprocess for carrying out an operation of analyzing image data or image processing, requests

the OS to hold a storage region for storing image data in a storage space of RAM 48, and stores

image data in the storage region assigned by the OS to allow analysis or image processing of

image data. In the subprocess for which the storage region of image data is assigned, after

processing for requesting the OS to release the assigned storage region, the state of the

subprocess is transited (changed) to the initial state thereof.

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Please replace the paragraph commencing at line 13 with the following amended

paragraph:

When ~~a~~ an abnormal state of the image processing system results from, for example,

inconsistency of the state between processes of the image processing system or inconsistency of the state between the image processing system and the image processing-related equipment, transition to the initial state in each subprocess and each of image processing-related equipment can be normally performed. Therefore, the image processing system-main process receives, within a specified time, a normal response from all of subprocesses and image processing-related equipment which are managed thereby. As a result, the image processing system-main process makes a determination that emergency stop of the image processing system (and the image processing-related equipment) and transition to the initial state(reset), indicated by the emergency stop execution process, has been normally completed, that is, an abnormal state of the image processing system is settled and restored, and acquires, from the OS, information which identifies the emergency stop execution process.

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Please replace the paragraph commencing at line 8 with the following amended paragraph:

In the image processing system-main process, a timer is started after an instruction for "forced ending" is given to all of the image processing system-subprocesses and image processing-related equipment, which are managed thereby. When a specified time has elapsed, the image processing system-main process gives an instruction for stopping the process to all of subprocesses managed thereby irrespective of a determination as to whether a completion response has been received from all of subprocesses and image processing-related equipment

which are managed thereby (see "~~end of process~~ process ends" in Fig. 3). As a result, all of

subprocesses of the image processing system ends. The image processing system-main process

requests the OS to shut down the personal computer 44 and restart the personal computer 44, and

the image processing system-main process itself ends.

Please replace the paragraph commencing at line 21 with the following amended

paragraph:

After the OS has performed preprocessing for shut-down and restart of the personal

computer 44, the OS shuts down the personal computer 44 (the power source of the image

processing section 14 operates with the power source of the personal computer 44, and

accompanied with shut-down of the personal computer 44, the image processing section 14 is

entirely shut down). Thereafter, when the OS is restarted and application programs including the

image processing system are restarted, the entire image processing section 14 is restarted. Due

to the entire image processing section 14 being shut down, thereafter restarted, and system

initialization processing being performed (accompanied with the system initialization processing,

the power source of the image processing-related equipment is turned on again and initialization

of mechanical facilities mechanism, or the like is performed), ~~a~~ an abnormal state of the image

processing system is settled and the image processing system is restored irrespective of causes of

the abnormal state of the image processing system (even when the abnormal state results from

abnormality of a communication system or the like).